

A PORTRAIT OF NATIONALISM VALUES IN LE BEIRUT POETRY BY JOSEPH HARB

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Abstract: A political polemic, crisis, and a far-reaching freedom in Beirut have been evident in many aspects of Lebanese lives. The emergence of public aspirations leading to tragedy and a devastating explosion of 2,750 tons of Ammonium Nitrate. This tragedy caused 100 victims were died and thousands people were injured. This phenomenon made many society from around the world contribute to express Beirut's freedom including Josep Harb through his poetry entitle "li Beirut". This study aims to describe nationalism form in 'li Beirut' poetry based on Norman Fairclough's theory, and show its impact on natinalism's reader as literary connoisseurs. This study employs a qualitative descriptive design. Data is collected by reading and taking notes techniques and then analyzed based on Miles and Huberman model that contained data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The results showed that the portrait of nationalism in li Beirut poetry are expressions of love and praising for Beirut, also compassions and hopes for Beirut. The impact that has an effect on readers' nationalism is an attitude of prioritizing unity and brotherhood, as well as an optimistic attitude to improve the nation.

Keywords: *Beirut, Critical Discourse Analysis, Nationalism, Poetry*

Introduction

Nowadays, Beirut has been shocked by the tragedy that the explosion that occurred on August 4, 2020, has reached a considerable loss. Many victims died, were injured, and even became homeless. This tragedy also significantly impacted several aspects, such as damage to public facilities, the destruction of the Baabda palace, and even causing seismic waves that were equivalent to a power of 3.3 magnitudes (Kompas, 2020).. This phenomenon also shows a democratic crisis due to an unstable economy. This is where people from various circles and around the world sympathize with the tragedy that befell Beirut. Various voices of freedom are expressed through various media, one of which is literature.

In essence, every literary work written by every author, of course there is an *asbab* which is the background for the emergence of a literary work both internally and externally. There are two forms of literary works, namely fiction (prose, poetry and drama) and non-fiction (biography, autobiography and essays). Poetry is defined as one of the literary works containing society's representation conveyed by the author. Literary work aims to convey social criticism and convey the author's emotional feelings about the community's condition. In this context, the author of poetry or other literature indirectly conveys his message, but there is much diction that is satirical and parables in poetry verses. The expressive

delivery of the author touches and can influence the reader as a literary connoisseur. Poetry authors can also describe the surrounding social phenomena in the form of criticism of the current ruler or give enthusiasm for his social life and place of residence to improve his situation..

In line with the above phenomena, Poetry 'le Beirut' is one example of literary work where a writer pours nationalism by telling the lamentation of Joseph Harb (1940-2014), his poem *Le Beirut* where the conditions of his country Lebanon at that time were in ruins due to the Lebanese civil war (1975-1990). The losses suffered from the hundreds of thousands of victims, the population who displaced millions of people to other countries, the economy ravaged by poverty everywhere, and infrastructure destroyed by years of civil war reported by Britannica.com (Kingston, 2020).

In his poetry verses entitled *Le Beirut*, Harb clearly conveyed his sense of nationalism to his city of Beirut which is in the country of Lebanon and is its capital as well. Each verse of his poetry often mentions the words you are mine, you are *min oh Beirut*, how he really loves and cherishes his city, this is where Joseph Harb's nationalism appears in wanting to advance and his longing to revive his city (Amin, 2012).

In 2020, Joseph Harb's poem went viral again due to the explosion in the city of Beirut on August 6, 2020, caused by the burning of the building which contained 2,750 tons

of Ammonium Nitrate, resulting in 100 deaths and thousands of injuries as a result, as reported by Aljazeera.com (Alsaafin, 2020). After the 2020 Beirut explosion, many countries offered their condolences, and famous Arab singers such as Maher Zain, Hamood Khunder, sang Le Beirut poetry, and conditions in the 1970s were the same as conditions in 2020, namely social and political problems that were not clearly as well as a crisis economy. The tragedy of the Ammonium Nitrate explosion caused the harbor to be leveled to the ground. Hence the Lebanese people demonstrated a lot demanding change and political and legal reform. The slogan uttered by the protesters is "Revolution", because it is not just a political problem but the economy of corruption in the government (New York Times.com).

Based on the explanation above, the majority of the people interpreted the poetry as an expression of sadness and compassion and condolences for Beirut. Same thing, Joseph Harb's work carries the concept of nationalism. How to convey the love of the country. Seeing the many messages implied in poetry verses, the researcher tries to describe the value of nationalism in a critical discourse frame based on Norman Fairclough's socio-cultural characteristics (Fairclough, 1995). The message that the poet wants to convey in his poetry is a lot of things that have an indirect meaning, to describe the situation and condition of the city of Beirut at that time, because at that time the city was

backward from all social, economic and political instability. In this poem entitled Le Beirut is a picture of the city of Beirut conveyed with a message that is indirectly needed to describe the message in the poem using Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis, in addition the poetry of le Beirut is able to influence the individual as a connoisseur of literary works. This is where the researcher's interest arises where the message contained in the poem le Beirut is due to the suitability of theory and object and is related to the study of critical discourse based on Norman Fairclough's perspective.

Research on critical discourse analysis is not new, but many researchers have used this method, so research on Critical Discourse Analysis has been done before, only different research objects. Social criticism of the music "Negri Negri" (Hardiyanti, 2018), critical discourse analysis "we Are the world 25 for haiti" song lyrics (Herman, 2019), critical discourse analysis of Eminem's song "Mongking the bird" (Saraswati, 2018), Fairclough's critical discourse analysis in celebrity coverage in online media (Cinderamata, 2019).

Based on the explanation above, the researcher seeks to explain the portrait of nationalism values related to the context of le Beirut, and to reveal its influence on the attitude of individual nationalism as literary connoisseurs.

Literary Review

Every individual must have a sense of love within him to improve and contribute to his beloved country, of course this Nationalism can appear as an unrest that occurs in the social conditions that he feels, it could be an economic problem where the people are getting poorer, a sense of justice that is injured so it is necessary to be a *Mushlih* or to see a tyrannical and arbitrary ruler to his people so that the person feels his *Hubbul Wathon* to act to resolve it both through exclamations and in the form of physical action. *Muhsin* is of the opinion that in this case it is not certain that every person has the spirit of nationalism, so it is necessary to cultivate or give rise to this *Hubbul Wathon* character so that it is well channeled to fight and have a pure opinion for the people (Amin, 2012).

So Nationalism can be interpreted as a sense of love for the origin of the country. Nationalism comes from the word nation which means nation in the Big Indonesian Dictionary (Ali, 1994). Explaining that the word nation means: (1) unity of people together in ancestry, customs, language and history as well as having their own government. (2) Groups of humans, animals and plants which have the same origin and very similar or distinctive characteristics. (3) a collection of humans who are usually bound because of the unity of their language and culture, usually occupy certain areas on

earth. Thus the nation can be understood as people who live and inhabit the same area, and they are subject to the sovereignty of their own country, as the highest power both outside and inside. He then transformed into a teaching (understanding) that loves his nation and country, as well as full awareness as a member of the state to advance his country (Amin, 2012)

Nationalism in the present era is a fundamental problem of every nation on earth, especially if its people have a very pluralistic primordial nature. The claim of each nation may be that even though it has different backgrounds Religion and culture must unite, but that is only political narratives conveyed by political elites, so a country or nation that cannot have nationalism is so bland that the country feels bland, because it only undergoes a life process of how a being is. Another life usually, there is an imagination conveyed that people can be united with the same goals, ideology, blood and common interests (Affan, 2016).

The author considers that nationalism or *hubbul wathon*, of course, has fluctuating development, but it does not rule out the spirit of love for our own country, there must only be, usually there is an experiment that we make or contribute as citizens, regarding this expression must be different because it can become a profession. and the busy background of each, of course a student expresses his love for his country by studying very hard, the intermediaries with the spirit of guarding every inch of this

country, the writers and scientists with their written works and inventions for the benefit of the nation, and still There are many other forms of expression, not only at the expense of new lives, it can be called true nationalism.

Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis is a theory developed by a British sociologist named Norman Fairclough, in the 1980s. AWK (Critical Discourse Analysis) is a theory or approach used to analyze a text within the socio-cultural scope (Fairclough, 1995). Farlough's opinion in one discourse there are social practices that can change identity, science, and social relations (power relations). As well as discourse can be influenced by the structure of society itself and other social activities in society, critical discourse itself does not always discuss or review objects called language but also the context of an existing text, therefore discourse is closely related once with the existing social dimension.

The focus in the stages of analysis developed by Fairclough has two basic stages, communicative events and discourse, the analysis of the communicative events itself focuses on research on language and its related causes for social and cultural influence, while the discourse analysis itself looks at the discourse of relationships between different texts, arranged in such a way as to convey the meaning of the text, in this case it shows the socio-cultural practices that exist in the text.

Method

This research is a qualitative descriptive study. The data comes from text where the researcher is the key instrument, the analysis is inductive, and produces descriptive data in the form of written words (Sugiono, 2008). Data sources are data collected by researchers, both primary and secondary (Hariwijaya, 2017). The primary data of this study were obtained from the poem "li beirut" by Joseph Harb which was popularized by Nouhad Wadie 'Haddad. Meanwhile, secondary data in this study were obtained from supporting references in the form of books, journals and articles from the internet.

The data collection technique used was the observation and note technique (Ratna, 2010). After data collection, researchers used source triangulation techniques and discussions with peers as a test of data validity (2011). Valid data collected in this study will be analyzed using descriptive analysis with Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis model. In its application, there are three stages, namely text, discourse practice, and sociocultural practice (Eriyanto, 2012).

Finding and Discussion

1) Nationalism Forms In Le Beirut Poetry

Poetry is actually a classic poem that was popularized by a famous poet named Fairuz, initially it was a poem written by Joseph

Harb to describe and give an implicit message to the state of Lebanon in engulfed by civil war in the 1970s, because the prolonged war resulted in hundreds of thousands of lives, and one million who died and resulted in an economic downturn in the Lebanese state due to war and foreign intermediary intervention into Lebanon. And in 2020 this poem went viral again after the explosion in Beirut on August 6, 2020, because the explosion was about 135 victims who died and 5000 people were injured, while 300,000 people lost their homes in the reports of Aljazeera.com (Alsaafin, 2020). Of course from Le Beirut's poetry there is an implicit message that is conveyed, it is necessary to have a deep understanding to understand the intent of the poet, the text of le Beirut's poetry is as follows:

لبيرت

من قلب السلام لبيروت

و قبل للبحر والبيت

لصخرة كانه وجه بحار قديم

هي من روح الشعب خمر

هي من عرقه خبز وياسمين

فكيف صار طعمها طعم نار ودخان

لبيرت

مجد من رماد لبيروت

من دم لولد حمل فوق يدها

اطفات مدنتي قنديلهما

اغلقت بابها

اصبحات في المساء وحدها

وحدها وليل

انت لي انت لي

اه عنقيني انت لي

ريتي لي وحجر الغد وموج سفري

ازهرت جرح شعبي

ازهرت د معته, الامهات

انت بيروت لي

انت لي

اه, عنقيني

Based on poetry above titled le Beirut obviously contains elements of love, anxiety, and how The condition of the beirut city at that time was hit by civil war, which resulted in the destruction of the social, economic, political and also buildings destroyed, all at once the Lebanese state of Beirut became dark and its people were displaced. The result of war. And in this case the researcher tries to reveal the implicit message in Joseph Harb's poem le Beirut using critical

discourse analysis from Norman Fairclough's opinion, there are two basic dimensions of Communicative Event Analysis and Discourse Analysis, so that the intent of the poetry author is achieved.

2) Expressions Of Love And Praise To The Beirut City

Joseph Harb begins his poetry by devoting himself to the city of Beirut, with full expressions of praise and love which he offers as a form of "Hubbul wathon" to his country Lebanon. Expressing his praise from the bottom of his heart for all the contents of the land and seas in the beirut, it is revealed that his city is made of the souls of its inhabitants, made of drink from wine, bread and jasmine flowers, all these expressions from Joseph Harb are clear because of his love for his city of Beirut, he tells the physical condition of his city with extraordinary descriptions in his poetry, with beautiful pictures. It's an expression that's not straightforward but has a deeper meaning.

There is also an expression of the word beirut "you are mine" "you are mine" oh hug la daku, how a poet expresses his sense of belonging to his city of Beirut, every phrase that is written in Le Beirut's poetry is his love and affection for his country, especially the city of Beirut, which at that time was hit by civil war for quite a long time, so he conveyed his deep love for his homeland in his poetry.

3) A Feeling Of Syimpathy And Full Of Hope For Beirut

Because a city that was hit by civil war, which resulted in the destruction of the physical and psychological buildings of the inhabitants of the city of Beirut, the compassion conveyed in this verse of this poem, how is a beautiful city like jasmine and its blue sea, now a puff of smoke and a lake of fire, and the shedding of innocent blood like children and women as a result of the war in his country, making him feel sad to see the state and condition of the city beirut. The expression of compassion conveyed by the poet, directly with the expression that his beautiful city, blue sea fibers but destroyed by the war in Lebanon, children and innocent people are the consequences of the civil war, their blood is just spilled with Simply put, the compassion conveyed by the poet as his love for the country of Lebanon and the city of Beirut, not only for the physical form he worshiped, but also for the Lebanese people whom he loved. With the expression of compassion and hope that is poured out in the poem le Beirut, it is a sense of nationalism that the author will hope for the improvement and return of security and prosperity to his city of Beirut in the future.

4) The Impact Of "Le Beirut" Poetry On Individual Nationalism

a) Prioritizing Unity And Brotherhood

From the clear poetry the author gives a description of how gloomy war is, because it paralyzes all sides of human daily activities, from the economy, education, to social paralysis due to war, the poet Le Beirut invites his readers to remain united and not be easily provoked, prioritizing a sense of humanity, must create a sense of domestic or national brotherhood, must accept the diversity of religion, ethnicity, skin color, because the goal of a state is to prosper its people, provide security to its inhabitants, not even torment the people, let alone give each other fear. People's personal. So the impact of Le Beirut's poetry on individuals is to prioritize unity instead of quarrels, prioritizing brotherhood, not discord that results in social chaos.

Unity and peace is the dream of every independent individual, so in the poetry le Beirut, the messages of peace and the invitation for unity conveyed by the poet, That a literary work can arouse the spirit of nationalism for someone to act in improving their homeland for the better in all social, economic and political fields, of course living in that country is comfortable and peaceful (Sary, 2017).

b) Optimistic For The Nation Improvement

A Joseph Harb emphasized in his poetry, that the hope for the improvement of a nation that was ravaged by an endless war can be realized, every individual naturally hopes for peace with no rioting around him, safe at work, safe in worship, and routine activities every day. In a poem or poetry by Joseph Harb, he describes in his work that without war everyone can be happy together, so each individual must have a very high optimism in the improvement of his own country, no matter how bad the state of his country is, be it political, social, physical and physical damage. Other as long as the sun is shining as long as that time there is hope and optimism in changing the country to be more prosperous and prosperous.

Optimism in the improvement of the nation both from an economic, political and social perspective is a form of nationalism that a person shows to his country, as well as a Joseph Harb, his optimism is a sense of nationalism for his country Lebanon, especially the city of Beirut.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above explanation, the researcher can conclude that li beirut's poetry is able to show a portrait of love for the country for the reader. This poem is able to bring readers to feel the tragedy that happened in Beirut. There is a portrait of love for the country which is shown in the verses of li beirut's poetry in the

form of an expression of love and praise for the city of Beirut, compassion and full of hope for Beirut. On the other hand, the influence that emerges from the poem is to prioritize unity and brotherhood, and optimism for the improvement of the nation.

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